

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3534

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4108

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, ASEC

SUBJECT: VISIT OF EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS; SECURITY

REF: STATE 82847

1. DEPUTY SPEAKER GAMAL EL OTEIFY OF EGYPTIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, WHO WILL BE LEADING DELEGATION OF EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS ON VISIT TO USA APRIL 25 THROUGH MID-MAY, EXPRESSED TO EMBOFF LAST NIGHT SOME CONCERN ABOUT SECURITY FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP DURING THE VISIT. IN PARTICULAR, HE IS CONCERNED THAT RADICAL LIBYAN ELEMENTS MAY ATTEMPT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF VISIT, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF PRESENCE IN USA OF PARLIAMENTARIAN ABU WAFIA, WHO HAS BEEN OUTSPOKEN RECENTLY ON SUBJECT OF LIBYAN/ EGYPTIAN RELATIONS. TWO OTHER DELEGATES ALSO RAISED SECURITY MATTER WITH CAO DURING PRE-DEPARTURE BRIEFING BY AMBASSADOR APRIL 23.

2. BELIEVE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE COGNIZANT OF SECURITY HAZARDS POSED BY THIS VISIT, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO POSSIBLE MOVES BY EXTREMIST LIBYAN GROUPS. OTEIFY PREFERS THAT DETAILS OF GROUP'S SCHEDULE NOT BE GIVEN TO PRESS, THOUGH HE HAS NOT OBJECTION TO ON-THE-SPOT COVERAGE OF NEWS WORTH EVENTS BY PROPERLY IDENTIFIED JOURNALISTS.

EILTS

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